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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Thomas Joseph Boyle :
Application No. 09/989,783 : ON PETITION
Filed: 20 November, 2001 :
Atty Docket No. 30868/04000 :

This is a decision on the petition filed on 20 May, 2005, under 37 CFR 1.137(b)¹, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This application became abandoned on 14 April, 2003, for failure to timely reply to the non-final Office action mailed on 13 January, 2003, which set a three (3) month shortened statutory period for reply. No extensions of the time for reply in accordance with 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Notice of

¹Effective December 1, 1997, the provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b) now provide that where the delay in reply was unintentional, a petition may be filed to revive an abandoned application or a lapsed patent pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b). A grantable petition filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by:

(1) the required reply, unless previously filed. In a nonprovisional application abandoned for failure to prosecute, the required reply may be met by the filing of a continuing application. In an application or patent, abandoned or lapsed for failure to pay the issue fee or any portion thereof, the required reply must be the payment of the issue fee or any outstanding balance thereof.

(2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m);

(3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional; and

(4) any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d)) required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(c)).

Abandonment was mailed on 24 September, 2003. The petition filed on 1 March, 2005, and treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.181 was dismissed on 22 March, 2005.

Receipt of the revocation and power of attorney filed with the present petition is acknowledged.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay.² In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

The application is being referred to Technology Center Art Unit 3752 for further processing.

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned at (571)272-3231.



Douglas I. Wood
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

Encl: Notice Regarding Change of Power of Attorney
Notice of Acceptance of Power of Attorney

²See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1208 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997).